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NEWS RELEASE

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**FEDERAL INDICTMENT OF CHICO MAN FOR ILLEGAL STEROIDS
TRAFFICKING PART OF NATIONAL "OPERATION RAW DEAL" CRACKDOWN
ON STEROIDS**

BAKERSFIELD MAN ALSO ARRESTED FOR TRAFFICKING STEROIDS

SACRAMENTO-United States Attorney McGregor W. Scott, FBI Special Agent-in-Charge of the Sacramento Field Division Drew Parenti, and DEA Assistant Special Agent-in-Charge of the Sacramento Resident Office Gordon Taylor announced today that RYAN HANSEN, 27, of Chico, California was indicted by a federal grand jury sitting in Sacramento on September 20, 2007 for one count of Possession of Anabolic Steroids with Intent to Distribute, in violation of 21 U.S.C. § 841 (a)(1). This case was the product of a joint investigation by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Butte Interagency Narcotics Task Force (BINTF), which includes members of the Chico Police Department and other local agencies.

The case originated from a major, multi-agency Drug Enforcement Administration-led task force investigation out of San Diego and New York targeting international trafficking of steroids from China. Dubbed "Operation Raw Deal," the task force also included the FDA Office of Criminal Investigations, the United States Postal Inspection Service, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Internal Revenue Service, Immigration and Customs Enforcement, and the

National Drug Intelligence Center, among others. Operation Raw Deal focused on manufacturers and suppliers of steroids in China and other countries; underground anabolic steroid laboratories in the United States, Canada, and Mexico; numerous U.S. based websites selling steroid conversion kits, and Internet bodybuilding discussion boards.

The results of the DEA effort were made available earlier today at 10:00 a.m. PDT in San Diego and New York. (The national press release is attached).

According to Assistant United States Attorneys Carolyn Delaney and Laura Ferris, who are prosecuting the HANSEN case, agents arrested HANSEN on Friday, September 21 and he will make his initial appearance today at 2:00 p.m. in Sacramento federal court.

In a related development in the Eastern District of California, TYLER STUMBO, 23, of Bakersfield, California was arrested on Thursday, September 20, by agents of the Drug Enforcement Administration for trafficking of anabolic steroids. A federal search warrant was served at STUMBO's residence on the 5700 block of Rockwell Drive in Bakersfield, during which an underground steroid laboratory was seized, with steroids in various stages of production, including powder, liquid, and pills. A total of 160 vials of anabolic steroids, weighing approximately 15 ½ pounds, was seized. According to Assistant United States Attorney Laurel Montoya, who is prosecuting the case, STUMBO was arrested in Berkeley, California, was released on \$100,000 bail and will make his initial appearance in Fresno federal court on September 27.

Stated United States Attorney Scott, "Federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies are to be commended for their tremendous efforts in targeting the trafficking of anabolic steroids. Today's take-down sends an unmistakable message that steroids can be dangerous and that illegal traffickers will be held accountable."

DEA Assistant Special Agent in Charge Gordon Taylor stated, “The Raw Deal here is the image portrayed to our youth that steroids can somehow enhance their lives.” Taylor added, “The illegal trafficking and use of anabolic steroids can be a dangerous business that comes with serious consequences. The ripple effect of this operation should be felt throughout the illegal steroid industry for a long time.”

Drew S. Parenti, Special Agent in Charge of the Sacramento FBI, said “This operation is an example of the impact achieved when Federal, State and Local authorities join forces to address crime issues in their communities. Based on the recent charges brought against Ryan Hansen, it is apparent that this international crime problem is far reaching throughout the country and Northern California. These illegal underground labs often result in the production of steroids, and performance enhancing drugs, in unsanitary, unregulated facilities and we hope this national effort brings attention to the significant health risks associated with using these drugs. It is not only professional athletes involved in the use of steroids, but also the young athletes who are playing collegiate and high school sports.”

The maximum possible punishment for possession of anabolic steroids with the intent to distribute is up to five years in federal prison, a fine not to exceed \$250,000 and a two-year term of supervised release. However, the actual sentence will be determined at the discretion of the court after consideration of the Federal Sentencing Guidelines, which take into account a number of variables, and any applicable statutory sentencing factors.

It should be noted that an indictment and a criminal complaint are allegations only and that defendants are presumed innocent unless and until their guilt is proven beyond a reasonable doubt.

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